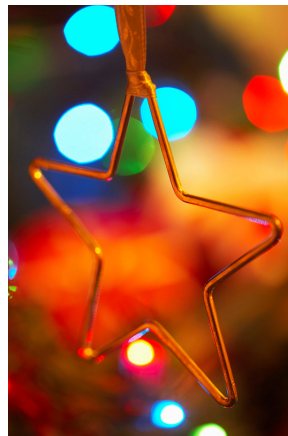


Reminders

City offices will be closed on Friday, December 25 to observe Christmas. Trash pick up normally scheduled for Friday will be picked up on Thursday, December 24.
City offices will also be closed on Friday, January 1 for New Year's Day. Trash pick up normally scheduled for Friday will be picked up on Thursday, December 31.
The Sturgis Public Library is offering Free Computer Classes on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Call 347-2624 for more information.



*Have a Safe and
Happy Holiday
Season*



Announcements and Meetings

Planning and Zoning: December 1 and 15, at 6:30 p.m. downstairs at City Hall.
Forestry: December 2, at 7:00 p.m. downstairs at City Hall.
Sturgis City Council: Monday, December 7, and Monday, December 21. Council meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at the Sturgis Community Center, 1401 Lazelle Street.
MUB Board: December 9, at 8:00 a.m. downstairs at City Hall.
Arts Council: December 10, at 7:00 p.m. downstairs at City Hall.
Public Meeting to discuss the Lawrence County 3-Mile Agreement. December 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the Theater at the Sturgis Community Center, 1401 Lazelle Street.
Park Board: December 15, at 7:00 p.m. at Morman Law Firm 850 Main Street.

Sturgis Welcomes Bar-Sto Manufacturing Company To The Industrial Park

On November 6, the South Dakota Economic Development Corporation announced that Bar-Sto Precision Machine, a firearms company based in Twenty-nine Palms, California will be the newest tenant in the Sturgis Industrial Park.

Bar-Sto Precision Machine manufactures gun barrels, custom accessories, and high-end custom firearms for a variety of weapons. They have been in business since 1967.

The company intends to build a 6,000-square foot building in the Industrial Park and will employ approximately 18 people in the next three years. The company expects to move into their new building in September of 2010.

Mayor Maury LaRue confirmed that Sturgis is in an ideal position to offer a variety of opportunities to industry related businesses. The Industrial Park is becoming well known for high-end manufacturing.



Sturgis Economic Development Corporation Hires New President

The Sturgis Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) recently hired Elizabeth Larkin as their new President.

Ms. Larkin's professional background includes extensive experiences within economic and community development, marketing, strategic planning, incentive packaging, private and public accounting, and systems development. Most recently, Elizabeth was an independent business consultant specializing in site selection and economic and community development. She served as Vice President of Business Development in the Economic Development and Finance division of North Dakota's Department of Commerce. She was also a Project Manager with the South Dakota Governor's Office of Economic Development. Elizabeth also has experience in the private sector, having been employed as the Manager of Implementation for Verifications, Inc.

As the SEDC's President, Elizabeth will be a valuable partner in assisting the City, Chamber, and County in achieving our economic development goals and initiatives.

Exit 32 Next In Line For Continued Economic Growth

Since 2008 Sturgis has been the home of 20 new retail businesses and the trend is expected to continue with the development of property at Exit 32. The City is working in conjunction with the Sturgis Chamber of Commerce and Sturgis Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) to identify and recruit potential new businesses for the Exit 32 site. The Buxton Company has been hired as a consultant in the search. Buxton provides marketing and planning services that identify and match potential new businesses with suitable locations. Buxton identified several possible matches for the Exit 32 site including Wal-Mart, Cracker Barrel, Big Lots, and Cinemark Theaters. In a recent survey residents identified these businesses as strong favorites to come into the community. According to City Manager, Dave Boone, the City is moving forward with marketing proposals for each of the top businesses.

Exit 32 is currently owned by the City and is a prime location for new business with 18,000 vehicles a day passing that exit on I-90. Because of the high traffic counts, the businesses at Exit 30 have experienced very healthy growth with new strip malls in 2004 and 2007 as well as several other new businesses in the immediate vicinity.

In 2008 a call went out to the citizens of Sturgis asking for input regarding future planning in the community. From these discussions, future development was identified as a key issue. From that point, several Future Sturgis committees were formed and development has been at the forefront of several town hall meetings. "With the cooperative efforts put forth from community groups, the Sturgis Chamber of Commerce, and SEDC, all working together, progress is being made," says Mayor Maury LaRue.

New Businesses Since 2008

Alternative Changes - Envy Salon - Gentry Loan - Holiday Inn Express & Convention Center - Kang San Japanese & Korean Restaurant - Matt's Barbershop - My Sister's Closet - Sturgis Dog House - Tony Hill Woodworking - Weaver Art Gallery - Early Childhood Development - Scoop Town Creamery - Flex Fitness - Sturgis Photo & Gifts - Temporary Insanity - Desaree and Company School of Beauty - NAPA Auto - Unique Boutique - Sturgis Wine Company - Si Señor Authentic Mexican Restaurant.

Officials

Mayor

Maury LaRue 347-4422

Council Members

Ward One:

Mark Chaplin 720-3792
Joe DesJarlais 347-7928

Ward Two:

Sherry Scudder 720-2768
David Hersrud 347-5061

Ward Three:

Clint Brengle 720-0171
Jamie McVay 720-5780

Ward Four:

Dane Sundstrom 490-1172
Bernadette Usera 720-9424

City Manager

Dave Boone 347-4422

Sturgis Public Library **FOOD FOR FINES Event**

Help our local food bank by paying your past-due library fines with non-perishable food items or cash until December 15, 2009.

All food donations and money from fines collected during this time period will go to the Kiwanis Food Pantry.

Join in the fun of giving and help feed our community!



Hands-On-Art Festival Planned for June 26-27

The Hands-on-Arts Festival is a new event scheduled for June 26-27, 2010. The festival will take place on Main Street in Sturgis. The event will feature a wide variety of arts including painting, sculpting, music, and theater. According to Bob York from the Weaver Art Gallery this event will be unique because it encourages attendees and artists to work together on a variety of projects. For example, if you have always wanted to try your hand at painting, this festival will allow you to team up with an artist and get some hands on experience. According to organizers, the artwork on display will be juried and is expected to attract some very well known artists.

The event committee is recruiting for volunteers and sponsors to help with all phases of the festival.

For more information visit: www.sturgisartsfestival.com or call the Weaver Art Gallery at (605)561-0301.

Barnier New City Attorney

The City of Sturgis has hired Gregory Barnier as City Attorney.

Mr. Barnier graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Law with his Juris Doctor and has an undergraduate degree in Political Science/History from Winona State University.

He began his legal career as a Deputy States Attorney in Pennington County in 1985 and has served in various capacities including Magistrate Judge, Special Assistant Attorney General, and numerous other positions in the Black Hills area. Mr. Barnier has had a private legal practice in Rapid City for over 20 years.

Start the New Year Off Right!

Stop by the Sturgis Community Center to sign up for activities for the entire family.

Sign up now for Girls K-6 Basketball beginning January 4.

Sign up now for land and water aerobics for adults.

Give us a call at 347-6513, or stop in at your earliest convenience for details on all our 2010 classes.

You are cordially invited to attend the following Community Holiday Events:

Festival of Trees

You are invited to stop by First Interstate Bank at 1222 Main Street from December 1 to 10 to view a beautiful selection of holiday trees and wreaths decorated by area businesses. Vote for your favorite themed decoration and enjoy refreshments during your visit. On Tuesday, December 8, First Interstate Bank will be hosting a social beginning at 6:00 p.m. and will conduct an auction at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds from the Festival of Trees will go to Hospice of the Northern Hills and the FIB Greater Sturgis Area Foundation. There will also be boxes set up to collect non-perishable food items from December 1 - 8 to help the Sturgis Food Pantry. For more information contact First Interstate Bank at 347-2562.

Parade of Lights

Black Hills Power and the Sturgis area Chamber of Commerce are proud to sponsor the 10th Annual Parade of Lights on December 4. Parade line-up begins at 4:00 p.m. at the Lynn's Dakotamart west parking lot. Float judging will take place at 5:00 p.m. The parade will start at 6:00 p.m. The route will be from Lynn's parking lot south on 4th street to Main and east to Junction Ave., then south on Junction (with a loop around the nursing home and hospital) and ending at Foothills Feed & Seed.

A free chili feed, sponsored by Realtors for Kids, will be held in the Armory following the parade. Parade registration forms and rules are available by contacting the Sturgis Chamber at 347-2556.

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Thursday, December 10. Help us light the City tree at the intersection of Main and Second Streets. Food and fun begins at 4:30 and the lighting ceremony will be at 6:00 p.m. Sponsored by the City of Sturgis.

31st Annual Community Christmas Concert

Enjoy the sounds of the holiday. Sunday, December 13 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Held at the Sturgis Community Center.

Sturgis Business Climate Will Be Affected By Annexation And The Proposed Bypass

The annexation efforts by the City of Sturgis and the proposal to build a bypass around the east side of Sturgis by the Meade County Commissioners have prompted several questions from our residents. The most common questions we have received at City Hall are listed here:

Do the businesses along Highway 34 already receive a direct benefit from the activities in Sturgis?

- Property owners in the Highway 34 annexation area already share a 'community of interest' with Sturgis and currently benefit from certain City services such as Police, Fire, City Streets, and Parks. These businesses enjoy the benefits of these services as well as profits from the Sturgis Rally without contributing revenues to the City equal to the value of these services.
- Rally related activities at Full Throttle, Thunder Road/Monkey Rock, Glencoe Camp Resort, and Rockin' the Rally have a direct impact on the health and safety of Sturgis residents and Highway 34 is the primary point of ingress and egress to and from Sturgis.

What effects will the proposed bypass have on Sturgis?

- The bypass could create a new retail corridor from Highway 34 to Interstate 90 along the bypass.
- The new retail corridor will divert traffic and sales tax from Exits 30 and 32, and from along the major arterials entering Sturgis.

How do we avoid losing sales tax to businesses outside the City limits?

- The most logical way to recapture lost business and sales tax is annexation of the area where the new retail corridor is formed. Without annexation these retailers will be operating outside the City limits and the City will be negatively impacted by the loss of revenue.
- The continued efforts to develop suitable building sites and recruitment of new businesses within the City limits will have a significant impact on both the revenues from sales taxes and the opportunity to secure new jobs in the community.

Will costs for services in the annexation area be paid by the new businesses or the taxpayers?

- The City currently provides emergency police and fire services as well as water and sewer services to the area. The City does not collect City taxes for these services.
- If business owners in the annexation area want water and sewer services, they will need to petition for those services.
- Costs of water and sewer lines will be recovered via special assessments paid by the businesses that benefit from those services, not the taxpayers.

Does the community support the annexation efforts?

- Annexation is necessary for the orderly growth and development of the Sturgis community. The extension of the bypass by Meade County will increase the need for proper planning along the eastern corridor more than ever.
- The most recent Future Sturgis Town Hall meeting on September 24 found that 74% of participants surveyed support the proposed annexation efforts.

If you have any questions regarding the annexation efforts, please contact the Sturgis Community Development office at 347-4424. Four Town Hall meetings have been conducted for the purpose of obtaining citizen input and we appreciate your participation.

Contact Information

City Manager 347-4422
City Attorney 347-4422
Community Development 347-4424
Finance Office 347-4422
Human Resources 347-4422
Rally Department 720-0800
1040 2nd Street

Community Center 347-6513
5:00 - 9:00 Mon. - Fri.
8:00 - 8:00 Sat.
Noon - 8:00 Sun.
1401 Lazelle Street

Fire & Ambulance 347-5801
Emergency 911
7:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
1901 Ball Park Road

Library 347-2624
8:30 - 7:00 Mon. - Thu.
8:30 - 5:00 Fri.
8:30 - 4:00 Sat.
1040 2nd Street

Liquor Store 347-5983
8:00 - 10:00 Mon. - Sat.
10:00 - 8:00 Sun.
1075 Lazelle Street

Parks Department 347-9018
8:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
1040 2nd Street
Shelter Reservations call
347-4422

Police Department 347-5070
Emergency 911
1400 Main Street

Public Works 347-3916
7:00 - 4:00 Mon. - Fri.
1057 Dudley Street
Rubble Site
8:00 - 5:00 Tue. - Fri.
8:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 5:00
Mon. and Sat.

Water Department 347-4425
7:00 - 4:45 Mon. - Fri.
After Hour Emergency call
Police Dispatch 347-2573